THE

BIOGRAPHICAL CYCLOPEDIA

OF

REPRESENTATIVE MEN

OF

MARYLAND

AND

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

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daughter of Daniel Webster. Colonel Bonaparte resided in the United States until the fall of 1873, when he went to Europe, and has been living in Paris most of the time since. He returned to the United States in April, 1879, to be present during the last illness of his grandmother, Madame Bonaparte, arriving at Baltimore a few days before her death. He has two children, a daughter and a son.

BONAPARTE, CHARLES JOSEPH, younger brother of Colonel Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte, was born June 9, 1851. At the age of eighteen he entered Harvard College, remained there two years, and graduated in 1871. After his graduation, he entered as Junior the Harvard Law School, and graduated from that institution in 1874, when he returned to Baltimore, was admitted to the Baltimore city bar, and entered upon the practice of his profession, in which he is at present successfully engaged. He was married, September 1, 1875, to Miss Ellen Channing Day, of Boston, and is now residing in Baltimore County, at his country seat, about four miles from the city (on a farm presented to him by his grandmother, Madame Jerome Bonaparte). He is a member of the Roman Catholic Church, and a Republican in politics, though not a politician.

AVIS, HENRY WINTER, was born in Annapolis, Maryland, August 16, 1817. His father, Rev. Henry Lyon Davis, was a clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church, the rector of St. Ann's Parish, and at one period President of St. John's College. The latter's wife was Jane Brown Winter, a lady of fine intellectual attainments and elegance of person. Henry Winter Davis's early education began at home, under the strict supervision of his aunt, Elizabeth Brown Winter. Later training with his father in Wilmington, Delaware, in which city the latter temporarily lived, and in Anne Arundel County, to which he returned, fitted him for school, from whence he entered Kenyon College, Ohio, in the autumn of 1833. He graduated, September 6, 1837, at the age of twenty years. In October, 1839, he entered the University of Virginia, where he pursued a thorough legal course, and laid the foundation of the elegant scholarship which distinguished him not less than his legal research and brilliant oratory. After graduating at the above institution he settled in Alexandria, Virginia, and entered upon the practice of law. His ability was soon acknowledged, and he early obtained an extensive business. He was a frequent contributor to the newspapers, and many of his articles on political subjects attracted great attention. In 1845 he married Miss Constance Gardiner, who lived but a few years after her marriage. Not long after her death Mr. Davis left Alexandria. He settled in Baltimore in 1850, where he at once took rank with the leading members of the bar. In politics he was allied with the Whig party, and took an active part in the Scott campaign of 1852. On the defeat and final extinction of the Whigs, Mr. Davis adopted the principles of the American party. He was elected from the Fourth Congressional District of Maryland to the Thirty-fourth, Thirty-fifth, and Thirtysixth Congresses. In the Hall of Representatives he was soon recognized as one of its ablest debaters. With thorough mastery of the subject under discussion he always commanded the attention of the House by his strictly logical reasoning, his array of facts, his knowledge of Constitutional law, the chaste but fervid eloquence of his diction, the strength and melody of his voice, and his handsome and commanding presence. He supported Mr. Fillmore for the Presidency in 1856, and Mr. Bell in 1860. Mr. Davis strenuously adopted the side of the Union against secession. On the fourth day of the second session of the Thirty-sixth Congress, the famous Committee of Thirtythree was raised, Mr. Davis being the member for Maryland. He argued in favor of the right of coercion by the General Government of States preparing to secede from the Union. The fall of Fort Sumter finally destroyed all hopes of averting civil war, as the entire nation then arose in arms. On April 15, 1861, President Lincoln issued his proclamation calling a special session of Congress. This necessitating an election in Maryland, Mr. Davis offered himself as a candidate for Congress on the basis of "the unconditional maintenance of the Union." He labored with great activity in the campaign, but was defeated by Hon. Henry May. Mr. Davis supported Mr. Lincoln's administration with untiring zeal. In the campaign of 1863 he earnestly advocated "immediate emancipation by Constitutional means." He was returned to the Thirtyeighth Congress by the Unconditional Union party. He was an acknowledged leader of the House of Representatives, and was looked upon as one certain of much higher political distinction than he had already won. At the close of the Thirty-eighth Congress he retired from public life. He died, December 30, 1864, in the forty-eighth year of his age. His funeral was largely attended by members of both Houses of Congress and by cabinet ministers. The Legislatures of several States passed resolutions of regret for his loss, and in the National House of Representatives an oration on his life and character was delivered by Hon. John A. J. Cresswell, of Maryland, February 22, 1866. Mr. Davis married the second time Miss Nancy, daughter of the late John B. Morris, of Baltimore. Beside the public speeches of Mr. Davis he wrote several pamphlets on political subjects, and on matters relating to the Protestant Episcopal Church, of which he was an ardent member. He was distinguished as a man of high resolve and unflinching courage, untiring industry and perseverance, much learning and cultivation, excellence of private character, and striking and brilliant gifts as an orator and statesman. To the publication entitled Baltimore, Past and Present, we are indebted for the main facts embodied in the above sketch,